

Priority Document

The Examiner indicated, on the Office Action cover sheet, that the priority document has not been received. However, the priority document was filed in parent application 08/763,721, now US Patent 5,982,407, on which this reissue is based. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the priority document, as filed in the parent application. See MPEP § 1417.

Surrender of Original Patent

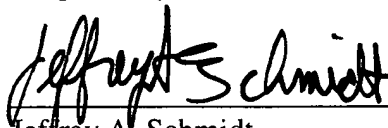
The Examiner requested that the original patent, or a statement as to loss or inaccessibility thereof, be filed in response to the Office Action. In reply, Applicants state that the ribboned original patent grant is lost or inaccessible. See MPEP § 1416.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: May 9, 2003